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## Vital Signs

**Temporal-** The temporal site is assessed during head-to-toe assessments and easily accessible in children.

**Carotid-** This site on a patient is commonly used when performing CPR as a pulse check point or when a person has collapsed.

**Apical-** The apical pulse site is measured with a stethoscope during the head-to-toe assessment. This site is also the most common site to measure the heart rate of newborns and infants.

**Brachial-** This site is used to determine blood pressure and where a nurse would check for a pulse while performing CPR on an infant. The brachial is also used to measure circulation in the lower arm.

**Radial-** The radial is the most common site to check for pulse due to the major artery present. It is used to check for blood circulation to the hand and to check for peripheral pulse characteristics.

**Ulnar-** The ulnar is used to check for circulation to the hand and while performing Allen test.

**Femoral-** The femoral site is used during cardiac arrest to check for a pulse or to check for circulation in a patient's leg.

**Popliteal-** This site is used when taking the blood pressure of the lower leg or checking the circulation.

**Posterior tibial-** This site is used to check blood circulation to the foot.

**Dorsalis pedis-** This site is used to check for blood circulation to the foot.